



## **INTERDEM MEMBERS – BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE**

**NAME:** Debby Gerritsen

**TITLE:** Associate Professor 'mental wellbeing of frail elderly people with complex care needs'

**PROFESIONAL GROUPING:** geropsychologist

**WORK ADDRESS:**

Radboud University Medical Center  
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**WEBLINK:** <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Gerritsen+dl>

**PRESENT POSITION (e.g. Director of .....):** program leader Mental Health, department of primary and community care, Radboudumc

**HIGHEST ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION (e.g. PhD, MD etc.):** PhD

## PROFILE OF MEMBER:

Gerritsen's research line regards mixed methods research into the improvement of mental wellbeing of frail elderly people with complex care needs by interventions that stimulate personal self management abilities. It has two foci: 1) development- intervention- and implementation-research regarding depression and challenging behavior of people receiving long term care at home or in institutions, and 2) applying patient self-management abilities for achieving and maintaining mental wellbeing and for adapting to changes and losses, by joint effort of patients, formal and informal caregivers.

## KEY PUBLICATIONS (Max. 5):

- Leontjevas R, **Gerritsen DL**, Smalbrugge M, Teerenstra S, Vernooij-Dassen MJFJ, Koopmans RTCM. A structural multidisciplinary approach to depression management in nursing home residents: A randomised controlled trial. *The Lancet* 2013;381:2255-64.
- Leontjevas R, **Gerritsen DL**, Koopmans RT, Smalbrugge M, Vernooij-Dassen MJ. Process evaluation to explore internal and external validity of the Act in case of Depression care program in nursing homes. *J Am Med Dir Assoc.* 2012;13(5):488.
- Smeets CH, Smalbrugge M, Zuidema SU, Derksen E, de Vries E, van der Spek K, Koopmans RT, **Gerritsen DL**. Factors related to psychotropic drug prescription for neuropsychiatric symptoms in nursing home residents with dementia. *J Am Med Dir Assoc.* 2014; 15(11):835-40.
- Veldwijk-Rouwenhorst AE, Smalbrugge M, Wetzels R, Bor H, Zuidema SU, Koopmans RTCM, Gerritsen DL. Nursing Home Residents with Dementia and Very Frequent Agitation: A Particular Group. *Am J Geriatr Psychiatry.* 2017 (epub)
- van Vliet D, Persoon A, Bakker C, Koopmans RTCM, de Vugt ME, Bielderma A, Gerritsen DL. Feeling useful and engaged in daily life: exploring the experiences of people with young-onset dementia. *Int Psychogeriatr.* 2017 (epub)